

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Patent Office for the careful attention accorded this application and respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the Amendment above and remarks set forth below.

In response to the Office Action dated April 4, 2005, Applicants have amended Claim 1 to include the limitations of dependent claims 8, 10 and 11 order to more clearly define over the prior art of record and avoid any basis for rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112. Thus dependent claims 8 and 11 have been canceled. Applicants have also amended Claims 3, 9, 16 and 19 relating to matters of form.

Applicants have reviewed the rejection and cited prior art, and believe that US Patent No, 5,988,508 to Bridgelall et al discloses a laser scanning system that is capable of generating complex, rotating, laser scanning patterns (as shown in Figs. 3A-3B), or more simpler raster scanning patterns (as shown in Figs 4B-4C). As disclosed, the system of Bridgelall et al uses three primary components, namely: (i) a pair of oscillatable reflectors position along the optical path of a laser beam source; (ii) a first drive mechanism for oscillating the pair of reflectors at different frequencies --that are a ratio of about 10%-30% apart to create a desired laser scanning pattern, as shown in Figs(a-9F; and (iii) a second drive mechanism for rotating the laser scanning pattern about an axis that is substantially orthogonal to the resulting complex laser scanning pattern.

However, US Patent No, 5,988,508 to Bridgelall et al fails to disclose, teach or suggest, alone as well as in combination with other prior art references, the laser scanning system of amended claim 1, which employs "an electronic scanning mechanism control circuitry that includes (i) a push-pull type drive circuit for producing an x-axis drive voltage signal having periodic characteristics, for driving said first scanning element along said x axis direction, and (ii) an electronically-controlled potentiometer for producing a y-axis drive voltage signal periodically incrementing and decrementing in small quantized voltage level steps, in response to a control signal generated independently from the x-axis drive voltage signal, for driving said second scanning element along the y axis direction of the system.

US Patent No, 5,988,508 to Bridgelall et al also fails to disclose, teach or suggest, alone as well as in combination with other prior art references, the method of amended claim 16, wherein a raster-type laser scanning pattern is generated by (i) electrically controlling first and second scanning elements so as to produce a 2-D raster-type scanning pattern having a number of scan lines proportional to the number of rows determined in said scanned 2-D bar code

symbol, and (ii) processing collected scan data so as to determine the number of rows of data in said scanned 2-D bar code symbol, and produce control data indicative thereof.

Furthermore, US Patent No, 5,988,508 to Bridgelall et al fails disclose, teach or suggest, alone or in combination with other prior art references, the raster-type laser scanning system of claim 19, wherein (i) a scan data processing means is used to processed collected scan data and determine the number of rows of data in the scanned 2-D bar code symbol, and produce control data indicative thereof, and (ii) a scanning mechanism control mechanism, responsive to the produced control data, is used to electrically control the first and second scanning elements of the system so as to produce a raster-type scanning pattern having a number of scan lines proportional to the number of rows determined in the scanned 2-D bar code symbol.

By virtue of the present invention defined by amended claims 1, 16 and 19, raster-type laser scanning patterns can now be generated with highly-controlled characteristics using relatively simple hardware components and programming techniques, as taught by the present invention. US Patent No, 5,988,508 to Bridgelall et al does not even hint at such inventive features defined by the amended claims.

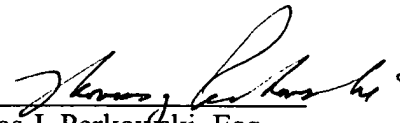
In view, therefore, of the Amendment and Remarks set forth above, the present invention defined by amended Claims 1-7, 9 and 12-23 is firmly believed to be neither anticipated by, nor rendered obvious in view of the prior art of record, and that the present application is now in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiencies to Deposit Account 16-1340.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

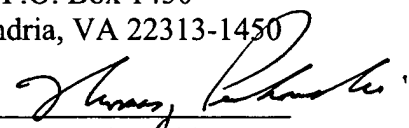
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